Why are so many types of inequality suddenly increasing? Should we be worried that we’re moving into a second gilded age with unprecedented levels of income inequality? In this new collection, David B. Grusky and Jasmine Hill present readings that lay bare the main changes in the social and economic landscape, what’s driving these changes, and what might be done to reverse them. This reader delivers the latest and most influential contributions on economic inequality, social mobility, educational inequality, racial and ethnic relations, and gender inequality.

The contributions span many fields and are authored by such top scholars as Emmanuel Saez (economist, UC Berkeley), Kathryn Edin (sociologist, Johns Hopkins), Raj Chetty (economist, Stanford), Florencia Torche (sociologist, NYU), Thomas Piety (economist, EHESS), and Lucien Bebchuk (law, Harvard).

The readings are thematically organized, and each section begins with an introduction from
Grusky and Hill that place the selections within a broader context. The pieces are expertly excerpted, allowing readers to quickly understand the main forces at work, the debates still in play, and what’s still unknown. The resulting collection is a pitch-perfect introduction for undergraduates or anyone interested in learning why we’re entering a new era of inequality and what can be done to change the tide.

Buy the Book

Print

- Amazon [2]
- Barnes and Noble [3]
- IndieBound [5]
- Indigo (Canada) [6]
- Powell’s Books [7]

Table of Contents

Preface and Acknowledgments

1. David B. Grusky and Jasmine Hill
   Poverty and Inequality in the 21st Century

Part I: The Classic Theory
   Overview

2. Karl Marx
   Classes in Capitalism and Pre-Capitalism

3. Max Weber
   Class, Status, Party

4. W.E.B. Du Bois
   Black Reconstruction and the Racial Wage

5. Charlotte Perkins Gilman
   Women and Economics

Part II: The Great Takeoff in Income and Wealth Inequality
   Overview

6. Emmanuel Saez
   Striking it Richer

7. Thomas Piketty
   Capital in the 21st Century

8. Claudia Goldin and Lawrence F. Katz
   The Race Between Education and Technology
9. Robert Frank
Why is Income Inequality Growing?

10. Jacob S. Hacker and Paul Pierson
Winner-Take-All-Politics

11. Bruce Western and Jake Rosenfeld
Unions, Norms, and the Rise in U.S. Wage Inequality

12. Richard Freeman
(Some) Inequality is Good For You

Part III: The One Percent
Overview

13. C. Wright Mills
The Power Elite

14. Alvin W. Gouldner
The Future of Intellectuals and the Rise of the New Class

15. David Brooks
Bobos in Paradise: The New Upper Class and How They Got There

16. Shamus Khan
Privilege: The Making of an Adolescent Elite

Part IV: Poverty and the Underclass
Overview

The Everyday Life of the Poor

17. Barbara Ehrenreich
Nickel and Dimed

18. Kathryn Edin, Timothy Nelson, and Joanna Miranda Reed
Low-Income Urban Fathers and the ?Package Deal? of Family Life

The Extent of Poverty in the U.S.

19. Sheldon Danziger and Christopher Wimer
The War on Poverty

Living on $2/Day

Why is There So Much Poverty?

21. Jack Shonkoff
Poverty and Child Development
22. William Julius Wilson
Being Poor, Black, and American

23. Douglas S. Massey & Nancy A. Denton
American Apartheid: Segregation and the Making of the Underclass

Legacies of Inequality

25. Patrick Sharkey and Felix Elwert
Multigenerational Disadvantage
26. Matthew Desmond
Eviction and the Reproduction of Urban Poverty
27. Bruce Western and Becky Pettit
Incarceration and Social Inequality

Part V: Mobility and the American Dream
Overview

The Race for Education

28. Sean F. Reardon
The Widening Academic Achievement Gap Between the Rich and the Poor

29. Richard Breen, Ruud Luijksi, Walter Müller, & Reinhard Pollak
Nonpersistent Inequality in Educational Attainment

30. Michael Hout
Rationing College Opportunity

31. Stephen L. Morgan
A New Social Psychological Model of Educational Attainment

32. Josipa Roska and Richard Arum
Academically Adrift

Economic and Occupation Mobility

33. Raj Chetty, Nathaniel Hendren, Patrick Kline, and Emmanuel Saez
Economic Mobility

34. Florencia Torche
Does College Still Have Equalizing Effects?

35. Elizabeth Armstrong
Paying for the Party

36. Jay MacLeod
Ain't No Makin? It: Leveled Aspirations in a Low-income Neighborhood
37. Jan O. Jonsson, David B. Grusky, Matthew Di Carlo, and Reinhard Pollak
It's a Decent Bet that our Children Will be Professors Too

Who Do You Know?

38. Mark S. Granovetter
The Strength of Weak Ties

39. Roberto M. Fernandez and Isabel Fernandez-Mateo
Networks, Race, and Hiring

Work and Mobility

40. Jacob Hacker
The Great Risk Shift

41. Jake Rosenfeld
Little Labor: How Union Decline is Changing the American Landscape

42. Ann Stevens
Jobs and Poverty

Part VI: Race, Ethnicity, and Inequality
Overview

Race as a Social Construct

43. Michael Omi and Howard Winant
Racial Formation in the United States

44. Aliya Saperstein and Andrew M. Penner
The Dynamics of Racial Fluidity and Inequality

Immigration

45. Alejandro Portes & Min Zhou
The New Second Generation: Segmented Assimilation and Its Variants

46. Tomás R. Jiménez
Why Replenishment Strengthens Racial and Ethnic Boundaries

Discrimination, Prejudice, and Stereotyping

47. Marianne Bertrand and Sendhil Mullainathan
Are Emily and Greg More Employable Than Lakisha and Jamal? A Field Experiment on Labor Market Discrimination

48. Devah Pager
Marked: Race, Crime, and Finding Work in an Era of Mass Incarceration
49. Claude Steele  
*Stereotype Threat and African-American Student Achievement*

**Race and Ethnicity in the 21st Century and Beyond**

50. William Julius Wilson  
*The Declining Significance of Race: Blacks and Changing American Institutions*

51. Reanne Frank, Ilana Redstone Akresh, and Bo Lu  
*How Do Latino Immigrants Fit into the Racial Order?*

52. Mary Patillo  
*Black Picket Fences*

53. Jennifer Lee  
*Tiger Kids and the Success Frame*

**Part VII: Gender, Sexuality, and Inequality**

**Overview**

54. Judith Lorber  
*The Social Construction of Gender*

55. C.J. Pascoe and Tristan Bridges  
*Fag Discourse in a Post-Homophobic Era*

**The Division of Labor**

56. Arlie Russell Hochschild  
*The Time Bind*

57. Christine Percheski  
*Opting Out?*

58. Asaf Levanon and David B. Grusky  
*Egalitarianism and Gender Inequality*

**How Much Discrimination is There?**

59. Claudia Goldin and Cecilia Rouse  
*Orchestrating Impartiality: The Impact of ?Blind? Auditions on Female Musicians*

60. Shelley J. Correll, Stephen Benard, & In Paik  
*Getting a Job: Is There a Motherhood Penalty?*

**How Gender Intersects**

61. Margaret L. Andersen and Patricia Hill Collins  
*Why Race, Class, and Gender Matter*
62. Andras Tilcsik  
*Do Openly Gay Men Experience Employment Discrimination?*  
**A Stalling Out?**

63. Paula England  
*The Gender Revolution: Uneven and Stalled*

64. Cecilia Ridgeway  
*The Persistence of Gender Inequality*

**Part VIII: How Inequality Spills Over**  
**Overview**

65. Sean F. Reardon and Kendra Bischoff  
*Income Inequality and Income Segregation*

66. Michael Hout and Daniel Laurison  
*The Realignment of U.S. Presidential Voting*

67. Annette Lareau  
*Unequal Childhoods: Class, Race, and Family Life*

68. Karen Lutfey and Jeremy Freese  
*The Fundamentals of Fundamental Causality*

**Part IX: Moving Toward Equality?**  
**Overview**

69. James J. Heckman  
*Skill Formation and the Economics of Investing in Disadvantaged Children*

70. Carol Dweck  
*Why Late Investments Can Work*

71. Joshua Cohen and Charles Sabel  
*Flexicurity*

72. Harry Holzer  
*Reducing Poverty the Pragmatic Way*

73. Lucien Bebchuk and Jesse M. Fried  
*Tackling the Managerial Power Problem*

74. Michelle Jackson  
*We Need to Have a Second Conversation*

About the Editors  
Index